

We claim:

1. A retaining wall system for stabilizing an earthen wall comprising:

at last one panel structure comprising

5 a wall panel defining an exposed face and a rear face, and  
at least one insert, where a first portion of the insert is  
embedded within the wall panel and a second portion  
of the insert is spaced from the rear face of the wall  
panel such that the second portion and the rear face  
10 of the wall define at least one lock opening;

at least one anchor mesh panel comprising at least one tension  
member defining an anchor axis, where the at least one  
tension member is bent at

15 a first edge location to define a bearing portion, and  
at a second edge location to define a return portion; and

at least one lock member; whereby

the anchor mesh panel is arranged such that the first edge portion  
of the tension member is adjacent to the rear face of the  
panel structure and at least a portion of the bearing portion of  
20 the at least one tension member is located within the lock  
opening;

the at least one lock member is inserted through the at least one  
lock opening to engage the bearing portion of the at least  
one tension member and the first portion of the insert to  
25 inhibit relative movement between the anchor mesh panel  
and the wall panel; and

the return portion of the at least one tension member engages at  
least one of the rear face of the wall panel and the lock  
member to prevent the bearing portion from being withdrawn  
30 from the lock opening.

2. A retaining wall system as recited in claim 1, in which the bearing portion of the at least one tension member extends at a first angle of at least 72° to less than 90° relative to the anchor axis.

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3. A retaining wall system as recited in claim 2, in which the first angle is between approximately 77° and 87°.

4. A retaining wall system as recited in claim 2, in which the first  
10 angle is approximately 82°.

5. A retaining wall system as recited in claim 1, in which the return portion of the at least one tension member extends at a second angle of between approximately 170° and approximately 210° relative to  
15 the anchor axis.

6. A retaining wall system as recited in claim 5, in which the second angle is between approximately 85° and 95°.

7. A retaining wall system as recited in claim 5, in which the  
20 second angle is approximately 90°.

8. A retaining wall system as recited in claim 2, in which the return portion of the at least one tension member extends at a second  
25 angle of between approximately 170° and approximately 210° relative to the anchor axis.

9. A retaining wall system as recited in claim 8, in which the second angle is between approximately 85° and 95°.

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10. A retaining wall system as recited in claim 8, in which the second angle is approximately 90°.

11. A retaining wall system for stabilizing an earthen wall  
5 comprising:  
at least one panel structure comprising  
a wall panel defining an exposed face and a rear face, and  
at least one insert, where a first portion of the insert is  
embedded within the wall panel and a second portion  
10 of the insert is spaced from the rear face of the wall  
panel such that the second portion and the rear face  
of the wall define at least one lock opening;  
at least one anchor mesh panel comprising at least one tension  
member defining an anchor axis, where the at least one  
15 tension member is bent at a first edge location to define a  
bearing portion; and  
at least one lock member; whereby  
the anchor mesh panel is arranged such that the first edge portion  
of the tension member is adjacent to the rear face of the  
20 panel structure and at least a portion of the bearing portion of  
the at least one tension member is located within the lock  
opening;  
the at least one lock member is inserted through the at least one  
lock opening to engage the bearing portion of the at least  
25 one tension member and the first portion of the insert to  
inhibit relative movement between the anchor mesh panel  
and the wall panel; and  
the bearing portion of the at least one tension member extends at a  
first angle of at least 72° to less than 90° relative to the  
30 anchor axis.

12. A retaining wall system as recited in claim 11, in which the first angle is between approximately 77° and 87°.

5 13. A retaining wall system as recited in claim 11, in which the first angle is approximately 82°.

14. A retaining wall system as recited in claim 11, in which the at least one anchor mesh panel further comprises a bearing bar rigidly  
10 connected to the at least one tension member.